THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) No, Sir, it has not been given the status of industry under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

(b) and (c) In view of 'a' above does not arise.

Implementation of Sixth Schedule in Tribal Dominated Areas

2017. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to implement the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution in the areas adjacent to the tribal dominated areas ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any State Government has sent any such proposal for the implementation of Sixth Schedule of the Constitution in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of the answer (a) above.

[English]

Workings of Consumer Courts

2018. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the mode of functioning of consumer fora ;

(b) whether impediments/difficulties have broadly been indentified in the working of these courts ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or being taken to remedy the difficulties notified in the functioning of these courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The Consumer Courts set-up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 are functioning as per the procedure laid down in the said Act.

(b) and (c) the inadequate infrastructure, frequent adjournments, non-filling up of posts of the Presidents/ Members in the Consumer Courts are some of the obstacles faced by the Consumer Courts. Steps taken by the Central Government to remove the obstacles are as follows :

(i) To strengthen the infrastructure of the consumer Courts, Central Government has provided one-time grant of Rs. 54.62 crores to the States/UTs during 1995-97.

(ii) Central government and the National Commission are regularly monitoring the working of the Consumer Courts.

(iii) State/UT Governments have been requested to fill up the vacancies of Mimbers/Presidents of various Consumer Courts on priority basis.

(iv) Central Government has written to the State Governments to hold periodical meeting a with the Presidents of the Consumer Courts to monitor and expedite the disposal of the cases.

(v) Central Government conducts training courses for the non-judicial members of the Consumer Courts to acquaint themselves with the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act and Rules and other relevant legislations.

Lifting Ban on West Bengal Potato

2019. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on growing potatoes in the West Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore ;

(c) whether producers of this State were unable to sold their produce to other States due to this ban;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken any steps to lift the ban keeping in view to protect the interest of growers;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) the time by which this ban is likely to be lifted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Sir, Potato Wart disease was reported in Darjeeling area of West Bengal during 1953. Since this was an exotic disease, domestic Plant Quarantine measures were adopted imposing restriction on the movement of potato grown in the State of West Bengal to control/contain the disease.

(d) to (f) Based on the outcome of a recent survey conducted during 1995, it has been decided in principle to restrict the ban on movement of Potatoes from Bijanbari, Mirik, Kurseong, Takdah, kalimpong, Alagara and Sukhporia blocks in Darjeeling District to other parts of West Bengal and territory of India. Notification in this regard has been approved for publication in the Gazette.